

Amendments to Claims

1. (Canceled)
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)
6. (Canceled)
7. (Canceled)
8. (Canceled)
9. (Canceled)
10. (Canceled)
11. (Canceled)
12. (Canceled)
13. (Canceled)
14. (Canceled)
15. (Canceled)
16. (Canceled)
17. (Canceled)
18. (Canceled)
19. (Canceled)
20. (Canceled)
21. (Canceled)
22. (Canceled)
23. (Canceled)
24. (Canceled)

25. (Original) A process for forming a stitched yarn surface structure comprising the step of:

forming a plurality of rows of face yarn underlaps on a first surface of a backing thereby to form a yarn surface covering the entire surface of the backing, the backing having a thickness dimension T , the yarn surface having a height dimension D , wherein the thickness dimension T is at least twice the height dimension D and not less than two millimeters.

26. (Original) The process of claim 25 further comprising the steps of:

applying a binder material to the yarn surface structure,
activating the binder material to hold the yarn underlaps
to the surface of the backing.

27. (Original) The process of claim 26 wherein the binder application step comprises the step of:

applying a liquid binder material to the first
surface of the backing prior to forming the yarn underlaps.

28. (Original) The process of claim 26 wherein the binder application step comprises the step of:

applying a sheet of binder material to the first surface
of the backing prior to forming the yarn underlaps.

29. (Original) The process of claim 25 further comprising the steps of:

applying a liquid fixative material to the face yarn
underlaps; and thereafter

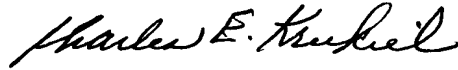
curing the fixative material to form a flexible
layer over the face yarn underlaps.

30. (Original) The process of claim 25 further comprising the step of:

applying a liquid impervious material to the second
surface of the backing.

In view of the foregoing, allowance of the above-referenced application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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